NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Published by the Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council, Newark, N. J.
April, 1959 836 South 12th Street

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SET FOR MAY 24th

WHO'S WHO IN THE COUNCIL?

The Executive Committee

Officers:
President..Stan Winters, Bi3-6880
Vice-Presidents:
Mildred Helms. Bi8-2853
Stan Hallett. Es5-2528
Elsia Smith, Bi2-6183
Bill Wallace. Bi3-4610
Helen Winters, Bi3-6880
Secretary..Al Finn, Es2-8218
Treasurer..Lee Bailey, Ta4-1506
Committee Chairman:
Housing..Don Dworkin, Bi3-7440
Budget and Finance..Hickman L. Holmes, Es2-2714
Recreation..Ralph Sims, Bi2-9727
Communications..Emma Pitts, Ta4-1563
Education..Sarah Hallett, Es5-2528
Welfare & Welcome..Louise Branson, Bi2-6535
Public Safety..Louis Pitts, Ta4-1563
Co-Chairman:
Housing..John Judson, Ta4-3749
Education..Ella S. Brown, Bi8-5741

DUES ARE DUE!!

Your annual $1.00 individual dues for 1959 are now due. If you have not yet paid, send your dollar to Lee Bailey, 20 Farley Avenue, and she will send you your new membership card. This will insure that you will help the CHNC in its fight for a better neighborhood. Send that dollar NOW.

Cut out handy form on P. 6!

BETTER SCHOOLS, HOUSING TOPICS

CLEANUP AWARDS TO BE GIVEN OUT

The 4th Annual Roundtable Conference of the Clinton Hill Neighborhood will be held on Sunday, May 24, from 2 to 5 p.m. at Clinton Pl. Junior High School cafeteria.

Everyone is invited to this conference; members, friends, tenants, homeowners, merchants. It is the biggest chance Clinton Hillers have to sit down, talk over their problems, meet new neighbors, and get expert advice toward improving the area.

The first Annual Conference in May, 1956, put the conference on the map. A program of action put forth then through dozens of opinions became a guide for the CHNC in its efforts. Succeeding conferences served to focus attention upon recreation and Urban Renewal.

Admission is free. Refreshments will be served and there will be one full hour devoted to round-the-table talks in groups of 10-12 persons.

So, mark the date - May 24, Sunday. And if you would like to help, call a Council officer for information. Watch the daily press for further announcements.

In charge of program, publicity, and other arrangements are Louis Pitts and Sarah Hallett.

NEIGHBORHOOD RESPONDS WITH AID FOR FIRE VICTIMS

Two major fires on Hunterdon Street prompt response from the Neighborhood Council and community agencies with assistance for the burned-out families. The first blaze, a four-alarm affair that threatened a whole block, occurred at 747 and 751 Hunterdon Street. Twelve families were left homeless, and most lost all their possessions. A two-alarm fire destroyed 628 and 630 Hunterdon Street where five families were living.

(over)

(Aid Fire Victims, cont.)

A campaign started by Mrs. Sophie Baylis and Miss Hazel Sales, chairman and secretary respectively of the Hunterdon St. (South) Block Branch, brought over one-half ton of clothing and household utensils plus 25 items of furniture donated by well-wishers throughout Essex County. From the 324 telephoned offers to help, the council accepted 68, according to Mrs. Elsia Smith, vice-president in charge of the campaign. Edward Cohen, vice-chairman Hunterdon St. also helped.

The Mt. Carmel Guild, the Salvation Army, and the Red Cross each responded with offers for immediate lodging, money, or offers of furniture. Mrs. Baylis and Miss Sayles collected $85 from sympathetic neighbors. This money was distributed for emergency use. Mrs. Mary Robinson of the Peshine Ave. Block Branch supervised clothing distribution.

Items were picked up by a truck and driver furnished by Goodwill Home and Rescue Mission, 79 Plane Street. Others were brought in person to 299 Peshine Avenue, a vacant store made available by the merchant next door.

"The drive to help began quite spontaneously," Mrs. Smith said, "and we all pitched in because it was a neighborly thing to do."

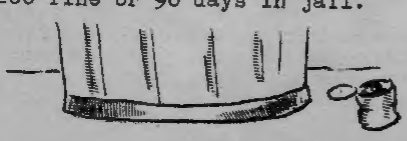
* * * * * * *

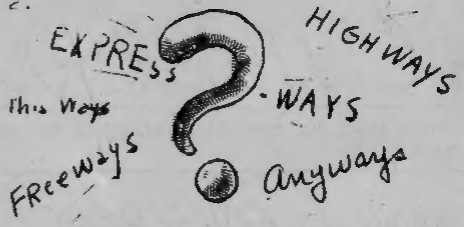
Telegrams sent by the council to Mayor Leo P. Carlin and private and public social agencies brought speedy offers of help. The Housing Authority offered emergency housing to all of the families.

The council's housing committee, Donald Dworkin, 74 Seymour Ave., chairman, is asking that the fire-damaged buildings be declared unsafe and either leveled or boarded up to prevent accidents.

GARBAGE CAN LOOTERS!!

Newark radio patrolmen were ordered in Feb. to crack down on garbage can looters. Inspector Cohen broadcast an order to enforce the city ordinance which prohibits digging through refuse cans for salvageable materials. Violators face $200 fine or 90 days in jail.





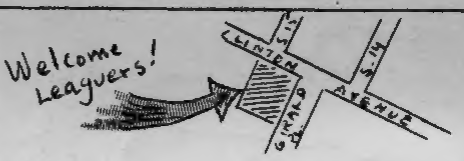
QUESTIONS HIGHWAY PROGRAM

In two public statements, Stan Winters, CHNC president, called into question the proposed network of freeways in the planning stage for Newark and Essex County. Speaking before the Annual Workshop of the Associated Community Councils on March 14, Mr. Winters asked whether highways and Urban Renewal programs were tending to cancel each other out. "Highways tear up neighborhoods and displace people," he said, "while Urban Renewal seeks to maintain fine residential areas. Federal money is used for both. Something is wrong."

In a personal letter to the Newark News on March 18, Mr. Winters asked:

"Will the proposed network of freeways represent $500,000,000 in outmoded transportation facilities by the time it is completed? Present Federal legislation providing for aid to states for highway construction should be amended to permit encouragement of alternative solutions to the commuter crisis. The much-talked-about monorail.... should be studied. In dealing with a crisis of such dimensions, old habits of thought should be discarded and creative, imaginative planning undertaken."

Persons desiring more information on the proposed highway network should call Lee Bernstein, pres. Osborne Terr. Neighborhood Assoc., Wa6-3078.



An application for a zoning variance to permit the use of the building at 750-54 Clinton Ave. by the Leaguers, Inc., was supported by the Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council in a letter to the Board of Zoning Adjustment. This is one way of saying welcome to this distinguished group of young people and their leaders.

There was opposition to the granting of the variance from some of the residents of Girard Pl. who expressed fear of traffic problems, parking, and noise. However, these fears were largely

(Youth Center cont.)

dispelled when several of the young people spoke at the zoning hearing, explaining that the activities would be of an educational and cultural nature.

Mrs. Mary Burch, in charge of the center, explained that many scholarships are given to deserving youths by the Leaguers. A vocational guidance program, classes in the arts, sciences, civics, drama, and dancing are conducted. Msgr. McNulty is chairman of the board of directors.

The Rev. Stanley Hallett, a resident pf Girard Pl., commented, "The kind of program the Leaguers conduct is well suited to the location they have chosen, and a wonderful asset to our neighborhood. We can be grateful that they chose Clinton Hill for their first pormanent home."

Flash! Variance approved April 14!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT! (News item)

Believe it or not - a building inspector was seen on Osborne Terr. last week! Also, believe it or not - he found no violations!

Recommendation: that all inspectors remove dark glasses before making night inspections.

FINE EXAMPLE!

TREACY AVENUE TAKES

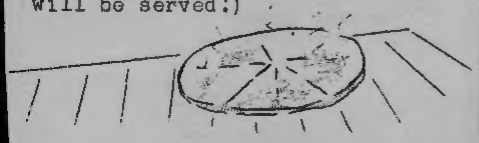
THE PLEDGE

"The chairman and members of the Treacy Ave. branch will do all in their power to make this Cleanup Drive the best face-lifting in their history."

Mrs. L.C. Brannon, Chmn.

DO YOU MEET ON TUESDAY?

If your block-branch meets on Tuesdays, then here's good news. The Hilltop Pizzeria, 533 Clinton Ave. invites block-branches and committees to meet there on Tuesday evenings. The place is fairly new to the avenue, and the enterprising owners are eager to get acquainted with Council members. (It is reported that free pizza will be served!)



NIX VARIANCE

A request for a variance to permit establishment of a supermarket at 634 Clinton Ave. (between Nairn and Ingraham Pls.) was rejected 4-0 by the Zoning Board in March.

Opposition to such use of the tract, one of the few large ones left in the area, came from CHNC, residents of the two streets, Temple B'Nai Abraham and Trinity Methodist Church.

Speaking for the executive committee, Stan Hallett, vice-president, said that the supermarket would create traffic congestion, noise, a hazard for school children, and add no needed facility to the area.

At present, the tract is a pleasant break in the avenue, a green lawn surrounding an old but graceful frame dwelling.

Last time CHNC opposed a supermarket was in July-August, 1956, when the old Orphanage Home at 534 Clinton Avenue, was up for sale. Through united opposition and 1450 signatures on petitions, the supermarket withdrew and the community went on to win the tract for 1) a parking lot, and 2) a neighborhood park, both to be part of the Urban Renewal Project (when it gets moving).

REPORT FROM HUNTERDON STREET (South) BLOCK-BRANCH

"We have had trucks removed from the streets that have been there for a month; also, cars. We now have a litter basket. We took a group of children to the Rodeo in Nov. Had a Christmas Party. We got over 250 signatures on the educational petition.

"Planning to further improve our block by talking to our neighbors to improve their homes." (Might add, raised about $85 to aid fire victims. Good work, Hunterdon St! - Editor)

Mrs. Sophie Bayliss, Chmn.

Belmont Buzzings....

PREPARE FOR CONNECTING HIGHWAY

A meeting of the Belmont Ave. block-branch on March 25 discussed possible effect of a connecting

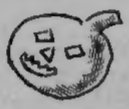
(over)

(Connecting Highway, cont.)

highway along Belmont Ave. between the East-West Freeway and Rte. 22 (if it goes up in Weequahic Section. The group sent 2 observers to the Mosque public hearings on the Freeway. The group also felt that the connector would adversely affect their homes and felt it should be opposed. The item will become a question of neighborhood-wide concern as plans for the highways mature.

HALLOWEEN DONORS (End of List) 1958

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Miller
Mr. Samuel Tucker
Heide Grocery
Miller Druggist
Sam's Vegetable Store
Mrs. Lyons
Ballen's Grocery Store
Jake Raekenberg Fruit Store
Self Service Cleaners
Milton's Grocery
Taystee Bread
Bond Bread
Mary's Shop
Abbott Ice Cream
Fischer's Bakery
Wheel Bar
Randy's Meat Market
Ben's Outlet Store
C.E. Johnson, Quality Meats & Poultry
Rosen's Tavern
Mrs. Parham
Sharpe's Pharmacy
Joel Horowitz, Confectionary
Weequahic Diner
South 17th Branch
Mrs. Charles Landever
Joe's Quality Market
A & P
Rev. & Mrs. Hallett
Food Fair
Ben's United Store
Mr. and Mrs. Pitts
Mr. and Mrs. Winters
Griffin Barbershop
Banner's Sportshop
Artie's Confectionery



COMMUNITY COUNCILS IN URBAN RENEWAL DISCUSSED AT WORKSHOP

Citizen participation in the various phases of urban renewal was discussed at the annual workshop of the Associated Community Councils on March 14th. Mr. Donald Dworkin, 84 Seymour Ave. and CHNC Housing Committee Chr., was a leader in the panel discussing housing problems. Fifteen members of the CHNC participated in the all-day affair at the Robert Treat Hotel. (next column)

(Community Councils Workshop cont.)

Dr. Lewis Webster Jones, President of the Nat'l Conference of Christians and Jews keynoted the conference with a discussion of the broad problems in human relations and citizen organization which which underly urban renewal. He pointed to the role of cities as the landing platform for persons getting on the escalator of American society. This is a continuing challenge, he pointed out, for there are now immigrants arriving. Social planning is needed if the opportunities for adjustments to urban life are to be made available to families entering Newark. Dr. Jones gave great praise to the work of the neighborhood councils, saying that they are the most encouraging development in the organizational life of cities in many years.

Resolutions from the various panels (which included housing, neighborhood renewal, education, business, and human relations) were presented at the wind-up session. These called for a major over-hauling of the housing inspection system in Newark, support for the new rooming house code, and support of a State-wide anti-discrimination law in housing. They were referred to the ACC meeting for action.

MAKES AFRO AMERICAN HONOR ROLL

The Annual Honor Roll of the N.J. Afro American for 1958 contained the name of Stan Winters, CHNC president. The Honor Roll, which consists of 10 citizens of New Jersey who performed outstanding service to their community, is one of the most prized awards of its kind. In thanking the Afro for selecting him, Mr. Winters said, "It is good to have hard work recognized with such distinction, but others have worked harder and longer than I. So I shall accept in the name of the Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council and its members, without whose support and perseverance my efforts would be nothing..."

DR. RILEY DIES

The Rev. Dr. Ralph W. Riley, minister in Hopewell Baptist Church, died on April 6, 1959. Dr. Riley, who lived at 66 Farley Ave., had served at Hopewell since Oct. 1955. He was a member of the Farley Ave. block-branch and of the Council's Advisory Board.

In a statement issued by the

(Dr. Riley, cont.)

Executive Committee called his death "a great loss to the community. Dr. Riley was a man of energy and understanding. He gave unstintingly of his advice and support whenever he was called upon."

Clinton Hill's Big Sweep to Run May 2-16

For the 3rd year in a row, Clinton Hill will undergo a housecleaning in May when the CHNC teams with the Jr. Chamber of Commerce to sponsor the Annual Cleanup Campaign.

The drive will begin May 2 and end on May 16. Ten block-branches will participate under the leadership of Mrs. Mildred Helms, CHNC vice-president, and Bill Reynolds for the J.C.'s.

Cash prizes will be awarded by judges who will inspect every house on the participating blocks both before and after the drive. There will be two categories: 1) prizes for the best-maintained houses; 2) prizes for the houses showing the greatest improvement during the campaign.

Leaflets and posters announcing the Cleanup will soon be sprouting throughout the neighborhood. A sound truck manned (or womanned) by CHNC volunteers will also spread the news.

Winners will be announced and prizes awarded on May 24th at the Council's Annual Conference.

Want to help? Want information? Call Mrs. Helms, B18-2853 or your nearest block leader or officer.

Last year the Peshine Ave branch set the pace by having several dozen children help by picking up trash. This was capped by a party for the youngsters organized by branch members.

Stickers will be given to homeowners and tenants who take part. Special garbage trucks will pick up large junk items disposed of during the Cleanup.

The Big Sweep is On!

* * * *

Roses are red, violets are blue,

CLINTON HILL COUNCIL CITED IN MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT ON WORKABLE PROGRAM FOR URBAN RENEWAL

In the report on the progressive strengthening of the cities workable program for urban renewal, the CHNC was cited as an illustration of citizen participation. The report was submitted to the Housing and Home Finance Agency by Mayor Carlin on Oct. 31, 1958.

The report states, "The Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council continued its close cooperation with city agencies on housing problems (including the Lower Clinton Hill Urban Renewal Project...). The Council sponsored the 3rd Annual Neighborhood Conference held May 18, 1958, preceded by a week long spring cleanup campaign and contest." (p.33)

Citizen participation is a requirement for urban renewal grants from the federal government, and the above citation was used as one illustration of this participation.

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We need your bill For Clinton Hill! $1

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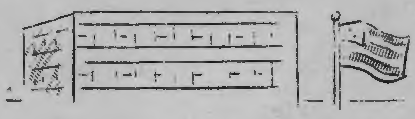

No opportunity has been lost by the Education Committee of the CHNC to impress upon the members of the Newark Board of Education the need for additional classrooms in Clinton Hill. Members of the Committee have met with Mr. Morris Fuchs, Mr. Girardo DelTufo, and have spoken before the open meetings of the Board of Education and the Board of School Estimates.

"The situation at Bergen and Avon Schools is critical," said Mrs. Sarah Hallett, chairman of the Education Committee. "The committee members feel a heavy sense of responsibility to the children, the teachers, and the whole neighborhood. The members of the Board of Education have seemed responsive, and Mr. Fuchs requested the Building Committee to report at the next meeting."

At the Feb. 19th meeting of the Board of School Estimates, Mrs. Verdell Roundtree asked that the budget for the coming year be rejected, and that the (Cont. next page)

* * * *

'59 is here, your money is DUE

(Campaign for New School cont.)

appropriations for additions and a new school be requested. Councilman Addonizio and Santoro voted to reject the budget. However, it was carried by a 3-2 vote.

Mrs. Lena Chives, 33 Osborne Terrace, stepped to the firing line on Feb. 24th. Speaking to the Board of Education, she pointed to the many children eating in the five and ten, or on the streets because no lunchroom facilities are available.

A novel idea was proposed to the Board on March 24th, when Mrs. Ethel Ritz of 80 Hillside Ave. (sec'y, Hillside Ave. Branch) suggested the possibility of moveable classrooms which would be available for immediate use in cases of sudden spurts in enrollment. However, she emphasized that immediate steps for permanent construction are needed in Clinton Hill.

Block Branches throughout the neighborhood are continuing to focus meetings on educational problems.

* * * *

DUES ARE DUE!

$1 1 - 2 - 3 Send it to Lee! $1

(Cut out, fill in, mail)

To: Mrs. Lee Bailey
20 Farley Ave.
Newark 8, N.J.

Dear Lee:
Please send me a 1959 membership card. I enclose $1.00. (If a check, make it payable to Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council.)

NAME . . . . . .

ADDRESS . . . . . .

COMMITTEE CHOICE (Education, Zoning, Housing, Welfare & Welcome, Recreation, Public Safety, Budget & Finance, Communications). . . . .

. . . . . .

SEND COUNCIL INFORMATION TO MY FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR WHOSE NAME AND ADDRESS ARE:

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

(Cut out, fill in, mail)

CLINTON HILL MUNICIPAL PARKING

TAKES A LOT TO GET A PARKING LOT!

It sure takes a lot to get a parking lot - a lot of time, that is. The off-street lot at 534 Clinton Ave. is proceding at a record-slow pace, and residents and merchants are justifiably grumbling. Ground was broken last fall, after months of campaigning. After leveling, sewers were put in. Since then, little if anything has taken place.

In a letter to Mr. S. Petro, engineer of the Parking Authority, the CHNC asked for "an idea as to the progress to date, how far along the construction has gone, and how many working days" are left to finish it. We won't believe it is finished until cars are actually parking there.

Takes a lot to get a parking lot...

LATE BULLETIN

In reply to the Council's letter, Mr. Petro of the Parking Authority stated that construction on the lot would resume on April 13, that the lot is now 40% complete, and that about 20 more working days on the project are needed to complete it. Thank you, Mr. Petro.

DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY 2 - Cleanup Begins
4 - Executive Committee.
16 - Cleanup Ends.
Judging of Blocks.
24 - Annual Conference
Clinton Pl. Jr. High

JUNE 5 - Council Assembly
Bi-Monthly Meeting

follow the Newspapers
ACTION's
Confence · May 4, 5, 6
A National Event that Will Put Newark in the Headlines!!